THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) As per the estimates available from the National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO), labour force in the country on usual status basis grew at the rate of around 1.03 per cent per annum during 1994—2000.

(c) It is estimated that around 5.35 per cent of the labour force have received formal vocational training. This does not include those who have acquired training and skill through informal methods including training in the family.

Amendment in the labour laws

2300. SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have amended the labour laws; and

(b) if so, the rules and regulations being included by Government in the labour laws?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI K. CHANDRASEKHAR RAO): (a) and (b) Review of Labour Laws is a continuous process which is undertaken keeping in view the emerging needs of stakeholders. Accordingly, in the recent past, amendments to the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, the Trade Unions Act, 1926 and the Cine Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1981 were notified on 08.12.2000 03.09.2001 and 14.12.2001 respectively. As per provisions of the various Acts, rules and regulations are framed by the competent authority.

Abolition of child labour

2301. SHRI M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of States have failed in abolishing the menace of child labour for their respective States despite repeated directions from Government and the Supreme Court;

(b) if so, the details of such States and the details of industries in which these child labour exists;

(c) whether it is a fact that many children have lost their lives working in these factories/industries;